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COMPARATIVE NOURISHMENT OF DIFFERENT KINDS OF FOOD.

[Concluded from page 66.]

WE have hitherto confined our attention to vegetable food. Experience, however, demonstrates that the diet of man must be presented to him in a variety of forms, and must not be restricted to the vegetable kingdom. At one time it was conceived that scurvy could only be produced by the use of salt provisions. More careful inquiry has, however, shown that scurvy may be engendered by restriction to one kind of diet; so that even vegetable food possesses both a scorbutic and anti-scorbutic agency under particular circumstances. Scurvy frequently attacks the Indian in South America, who lives almost on rice alone. It has reigned epidemically in the rice grounds of Lombardy and Piedmont. The same disease prevailed in an epidemic form in Germany in 1771 and 1772, years of scarcity, when many of the inhabitants were obliged to live on legumes, roots, and even the bark of trees. Scurvy affected numbers of the poor people of France in 1812, 1816 and 1817, when even wild plants were employed as food, in consequence of scarcity. Its effects have been severely felt in India. At the lunatic asylum of Moorshedabad, one third of the inmates are annually affected with scurvy; their diet consists principally of vegetables—all good of their kind. The deleterious influence of a bread and water diet is sufficiently evinced by the fact, that among the prisoners in the gaols of Bengal and Agra, the mortality was 66 per thousand, while among the native troops the deaths were only 10.6 per thousand. How far such treatment of men falling into error is congenial with the benevolent doctrines which "desire not the death of a sinner, but rather that he should turn from his wickedness and live," this is not the place to inquire.

Scurvy is obviously a symptom of bad nutriment—the blood being imperfectly formed or the tissues abnormally deposited. It arises from the want of nourishing food, and a proper admixture of those varieties of diet which were destined for the sustenance of man. The well-known disease at the Millbank Penitentiary—a mixture of scurvy and dysentery—was attributed to the employment of a diet into which succulent vegetables did not enter as an ingredient. Scurvy is therefore one of the forms which starvation assumes, and bears close analogy to the symptoms described by Magendie as occurring to dogs when they were fed upon articles which did not contribute to their nourishment. Starvation in this form has been traced to its true cause after its occurrence for hundreds of years, because it was detected in gaols and madhouses, and was subjected to a careful examination. How many other forms starvation assumes among the poor and helpless is unknown. From the Registrar-general's report for 1839, it appears that 130 persons died of direct starvation—that is, purely from want of food. But how many persons perished from starvation, obscured by other names, has not yet been pointed out by statistical data. Numerous points for inquiry, however, present themselves to the medical statistician in considering this question. How far are typhus, scarlet fever, and other diseases of large towns influenced by bad and imperfect nutriment; and how far does restriction to meagre vegetable diet operate upon mortality in our manufacturing towns?

The following table exhibits the mortality of some of our largest towns compared with the deaths over the whole of England and Wales in 1839:

Mortality in England and Wales - -	2.17 per cent.
Average mortality of towns in England and Wales	2.62 "
Birmingham - - - - - - -	2.58 "
Liverpool - - - - - -	3.18 "
Glasgow - - - - - - -	3.26 "
Manchester - - - - - -	3.45 "
Whitechapel - - - - -	3.86 "

From this table we deduce that the mean duration of life in England is 46 years; in towns 38 years; and in Whitechapel 26 years. How far is this mortality attributable to inefficient nourishment? We are convinced that those who have had much intercourse with the poor in their wretched hovels, will bear us out in confirming the propriety of this question. The great burden of the starvation and mortality falls upon the poor; but bringing as it does with it a train of evils and diseases, the consequences must, in some measure, affect the richer portion of the community, in the form of infectious diseases; so true is it that the prosperity of any one class of the population is dependent upon that of all the others.

Experience, the structure of the teeth, and of the digestive organs of the human body, demonstrate that the flesh of animals should enter as an element into the food of man. Some kinds of animal food are digested with much greater rapidity than vegetable food. Bread and coffee require about 4¼ hours; fresh beef from 3 to 3½ hours; salt beef from 3½ to 5½ hours; salt pork from 4½ to 6 hours; mutton 3¼ to 4½ hours; fowl 4 hours; veal from 4 to 5½ hours; tripe 1 hour; pig's feet 1 hour. But these numbers depend considerably upon the circumstances under which the food is swallowed. If the quantity taken be in excess, slow digestion is the result; and the same remark holds with respect to passions of the mind; exercise also promotes digestion. It is interesting to know that those substances which are most nutritive are not those which are most rapidly digested. Gluten, which, according to Magendie, is exceedingly nutritious, has been found in the stomach five hours after being swallowed. Pig's feet, on the contrary, which are digested in an hour, contain a large proportion of gelatine, which, according to the experiments of Magendie, possesses very inferior nutritive properties. To thoſe who are ſavored with the bleſsings of this liſe, any of theſe ſubſtances may be procured at will. It is when viewing the conditions of the poor that we muſt conſider diet in an economical point of view; and with them the point is not how to create an appetite, but how to ſatiate it in the cheapeſt and moſt ſubſtantial manner.

Papin was the firſt individual who introduced the method of preparing ſood ſrom bones, by expoſing them to the action of water and ſteam under preſsure in his digeſter. By this operation a greater quantity of gelatine or animal matter of the bone was diſsolved than could be procured by ſimply boiling bones in water at the ordinary temperature, although Papin conſiderably exaggerated the advantages of his invention. Papin was a Frenchman, and practiſed medicine in London about 1680. He publiſhed a work in 1682, on the manner of ſoftening bones, and cooking all ſorts of meat; he declared that his digeſter could transform an old hard cow into excellent meat *(vache dure et vielle en excellente viande)*. At the commencement of the French revolution, when proviſions were dear, the attention of men of ſcience was directed to the improvement of the ſood ſor the poor. Prouſt, D'Arcet and Pelletier took the lead in this attempt at amelioration, but carried away it appears by the enthuſiaſtic ſeelings of the times, they made a report to government which ſubſequent inquiry has not corroborated. The government iſsued a public inſtruction to the ſollowing effect: "A bone is a tablet of ſoup formed by nature; a pound of bone gives as much ſoup as ſix pounds of meat; bone-ſoup, in a dietetical point of view, is preferable to meat-ſoup."—It is obvious, from theſe high-flown expreſsions, that gelatine and nutritive matter were conſidered ſynonymous. Such views continued to be entertained by many Frenchmen, but by none more conſpicuouſly than by the younger D'Arcet, who inherited the gelatine mania ſrom his father. According to him, by uſing the bones of four oxen a fifth is created. At his ſuggeſtion the method of extracting gelatine ſrom bones under ſtrong preſsure, by the action of ſteam, was introduced into ſome of the hoſpitals of Paris, eſpecially the Hotel Dieu. The gelatinous ſolution employed ſor making the ſoup at the hoſpitals, is extracted by ſubmitting to the action of high-preſsure ſteam, the bones proceeding ſrom the meat uſed in the houſe; theſe bones have undergone two decoctions, the firſt in the morning in preparing the ordinary ſoup, and the ſecond in the evening ſor producing the *bouillon maigre*. Theſe bones, after being ſreed ſrom cartilages, are broken up and are introduced into caſt-iron cylinders, where they are expoſed to the action of ſteam, at the temperature of 219 to 221 deg. The firſt product of this action is fat, which ſeparates while the gelatinous water cools; the gelatinous fluid is then employed to form the baſis of the ſoups for the ſick, being mixed with meat and vegetables. A commiſsion appointed to report upon this ſoup, gave a ſavorable opinion of its nutritive power; while the phyſicians and ſurgeons of the Hotel Dieu gave an oppoſite opinion in the ſollowing words: "The ſoup made with the gelatinous ſolution is of bad quality; this ſoup is more liable to putreſaction than common ſoup; it poſseſses a diſagreeable taſte, which is capable of inducing even diſguſt; it is leſs digeſtible than common soup, and may even impair the functions of the digestive organs; it contains a smaller proportion of nutritive matter than common soup, and the nutritive matter which it does contain is inferior in quality to that of ordinary soup." The consequence of this report was an order for abolishing the use of the apparatus. But, before removing it, Soubeiran, a distinguished chemist, was consulted; he advised the extraction of the gelatine by means of acids, and disapproved of the vapor method. About the same time M. Donné made some experiments upon the nutritive properties of gelatine. He swallowed three times a day an ounce and a half of gelatine along with about three ounces of bread. In six days he lost two pounds of weight, and was tormented all the time with the sensation of hunger, and experienced great debility. Two dogs, to which he gave gelatine, refused to partake of it, even when presented to them in an attractive form. M. Gannal, a manufacturer of glue, had observed that rats, which are always ready to devour animal substances, would not touch gelatine nor glue. He made experiments upon five members of his family, and drew the conclusion that gelatine is not only incapable of nourishing human beings, but that it is even hurtful to health, when introduced beyond a certain proportion into regimen. About the same period Edwards and Balzac found that bread and gelatine, when given together, were nutritive, but that they are insufficient; that soup and bread are capable of supplying complete nourishment, and that the addition of meat-soup to a regimen of bread and gelatine, is adequate to nourish the human body in a complete manner.

About 1831, a commission was appointed by the French Academy to inquire into the truth of these apparently contradictory statements. The commission, after continuing their experiments for nearly ten years, have now published their report. But the results, so far as their importance is concerned, are neither worthy of the time which has been bestowed upon them, nor the space which the report occupies. For with the exception of the observation of the fact, and this we admit is a curious one, that animals can subsist for a considerable period of time on gluten alone, we are not aware that any of the deductions are novel. The first experiments on animal substances were instituted on gelatine. The gelatine was extracted from bones by different methods. But we believe the high-pressure steam system was not adopted. Indeed we think there is every reason to believe that gelatine, when acted upon in the manner suggested by D'Arcet, is deprived of ammonia and is converted into glue. So that the soup proposed by D'Arcet might with greater propriety be denominated glue-soup. The gelatine produced in this manner is destitute of the characteristic property of forming a jelly with water. Indeed our surmise is put beyond doubt by the fact stated by those who have examined the soup of the Hotel Dieu, that the solution of gelatine when evaporated, left a hard extract, presenting the character of Flanders glue. We think it possible, however, that a gelatinous solution might be extracted from bones under pressure, without the disengagement of any ammonia, or without the evolution of any disagreeable odor. We draw this inference from a carefully conducted experiment in which a bone lost by exposure for an hour to a temperature of 230 deg. in a Papin's digester, 14½ per cent. The resulting liquid possessed a highly agreeable flavor, nor was the slightest ammoniacal smell perceptible. The advantage of a considerable elevation of temperature is obvious, when we contrast the preceding experiment with another, in which a bone, after boiling an hour and a half in water in a common pot, lost only 5½ per cent.—(Glasgow Report.) Now, according to the French commission, the constitution of bones in an economical point of view is as follows:—

	Sheep's-feet bones.	Ox-head bones.
Water	47.22	22.87
Fat	5.55	11.54
Gelatine	17.30	27.99
Phosphates	12.42	32.77
Insol.-animal matter	17.51	4.83
	100	100

From this table we may learn that more gelatine will be extracted by high pressure, when we consider its amount, and when we take into view the facts we have previously adduced.

From the experiments of the commission, we learn no more than we previously knew, viz., that animals are incapable of subsisting upon the exclusive use of an elementary animal principle. The experiments of Donné and Gannal had proved this in relation to gelatine; but the researches of Edwards had shown, contrary to what the commission seem anxious to admit, that gelatine when administered in conjunction with other articles of diet, may serve for the purposes of nutrition. Gelatine extracted from bones by the action of water is, according to the commission, less nutritive than gelatine extracted by the use of acids. When gelatine prepared by the former method was presented to dogs, some of them partook of it once or twice, while others preferred rather to die than touch it. If the bones were digested in acid, and the residue dissolved in water, dogs lived upon it for a month and were well nourished, especially when the bones were those of sheep's feet: but after this period they exhibited a dislike to this meal. In the choice of acids we find that it is not a matter of indifference which we employ; for by acting upon gelatine by nitric acid, we have procured by distillation by no means inconsiderable traces of prussic acid. Muriatic acid appears to be, considering all circumstances, the most convenient for the object in view. We believe, therefore, that gelatine procured by the action of acids, might be employed advantageously as the basis of soups; but we conceive that the facts previously adduced are sufficiently condemnatory of the process of extracting gelatine from bones by long-continued high-pressure steam.

It would be of essential advantage to the poor, if attention were bestowed on such methods of preparing a cheap and efficient nutriment. We believe that, at least in the present condition of the country, especially among the poor inhabitants of towns, a comfortable meal can rarely be procured; and that it would be highly advisable to form institutions where poor laborers might be supplied with a cheap meal at their own cost. Under these circumstances it would be necessary to employ cheap materials. But care should be taken that they are of a wholesome and nutritious quality. For this purpose it would be essential that they should be superintended by individuals qualified to judge of the qualities of food, and acquainted with the chemical principles necessarily connected with the various processes employed in preparing and cooking the various articles of diet. We should recommend, also, that greater variety in the routine of the dietaries should be inculcated. The poor ought not to be fed like the inferior animals, continually upon the same materials. We are convinced, from the proposed improvements in the dieting of the Glasgow poor, that the dinner may be different on each successive day; and that the industrious laborer who constitutes the sinew of the country, may, in his declining years, be treated more in conformity with that class for whose comforts his best energies have been spent, and for whose existence his well-being is essential.—***British and Foreign Medical Review.***

TYPHOID FEVER IN A PATIENT SIXTY-THREE YEARS OLD.

BY ELISHA BARTLETT, M.D.

[Communicated for the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.]

On Wednesday, the 24th of August, I was invited by Dr. Butterfield, of this city, to attend the examination of a female subject, sixty-three years old, who had died twenty-four hours previously under the care of Dr. Huntington. Dr. Huntington was unable to be present. Dr. Butterfield had seen but little of the patient; and from the very partial history, which we had then had of the symptoms, we supposed it most probable that the case had been one of disease of the brain. As the case is one of considerable interest, I shall report it in the order which, under the circumstances, we were obliged to pursue, in its investigation and diagnosis.

The organ first examined was the brain. We found, here, moderate venous congestion, and pretty abundant sub-arachnoid serous effusion. The ventricles, also, contained from half an ounce to an ounce each of clear, colorless serum. The color and consistence of the brain were in no way obviously changed.

The adipose tissue upon the abdomen was from an inch and a half to two inches in thickness; and the omentum was very much loaded with fat. The large intestine was fully distended with flatus, and the small intestines moderately so. The kidneys were somewhat softened, perhaps, but in no way very obviously altered from their natural condition. As soon as the small intestines were exposed, I was struck with the very marked, dark-colored appearance of several of Peyer's glands, and with their very manifest thickening; and I remarked to Dr. Butterfield, that, unexpected as the discovery might be to us, we were likely, I thought, to find the lesion of typhoid fever. A portion of the lower part of the ileum, about seven feet in length, was removed from the body, slit open, washed, carefully examined, and notes of its condition taken at the time. Eighteen inches from the upper end of the removed portion we found a small oval patch very considerably thickened, with prominent edges, and its surface roughened and abraded. At the distance of two inches from this we found another and larger gland, more thickened than the first, and of a mottled red color. Then, at intervals of from two to fifteen inches, until arriving at within a foot of the ileo-cæcal valve, we found eight elliptical plates, several of them quite large, one of them two and a half inches long by one inch wide; more or less extensively diseased. Most of them were of a dark-red color; they were much thickened, with prominent edges; some of them were extensively and deeply ulcerated, besides being the seat of the peculiar yellow deposition or degeneration so common in this lesion. The last ten or twelve inches of the intestine were thickly scattered over with smaller and somewhat more irregularly-shaped patches, in a condition similar to those which have just been described. This state of things terminated abruptly at the ileo-cæcal valve. Several of the isolated follicles of the ileum were red and thickened. The intervening mucous membrane was but little altered from its natural state. There were a few isolated follicles of the cæcum slightly prominent and reddened. The contents of the intestines were yellow and pultaceous. Several of the mesenteric glands, corresponding to the lower extremity of the ileum, were much enlarged, one of them to the size of the end of the thumb, softened, and of a reddish-yellow color. The spleen was enlarged, dark and softened. The consistence of the liver, also, was very decidedly diminished. The upper portion of the alimentary tube was not examined.

The heart was softened, somewhat, though otherwise natural. There were no pleuritic adhesions, and the entire lungs were perfectly healthy, excepting that the lower and posterior edge of the right lung had undergone the kind of *carnification* common in typhoid fever. It was of a dark, bluish-red color; wholly destitute of air; not granular or hepatized; with a tough, flabby texture, not easily torn or penetrated by the fingers.

Here, then, was a case, so far as the evidence to be derived from the morbid appearances of the organs could settle the question, of typhoid fever; not doubtfully or vaguely, but, on the contrary, very clearly and unequivocally marked. It remained to be seen, whether, contrary to what we had been led to suppose, this diagnosis, founded exclusively upon the autopsy, would be justified by the history of the case during life. On inquiry of the friends of the patient, and of her physician (Dr. Huntington), it was found that she was attacked on Monday, the 15th of August, after breakfast, with severe pain in the head; and that she complained of being very cold. She ate no dinner, but kept about during the day. Through the night she was dozy, but restless; and during the whole of the next day, she remained in bed, with increasing headache, and with pains over the whole body, but especially severe in the back and hips. She had no appetite, was thirsty, and inclined to sleep, though restless. This state of things continued through Tuesday night, with the addition of slight wandering delirium. On Thursday evening there was much increase of the somnolence, so that for some hours she could not be roused. From this period up to the fatal termination of the case, there was drowsiness, dizziness, restlessness, constant pulling at the bed-clothes, delirium; and marked rigidity of the muscles of both arms, constituting, as is now well known, an almost invariably fatal symptom in this disease. For the last few days there were four or five liquid discharges from the bowels daily, of a dark yellowish color. The pulse was rapid, and during the last four or five days, irregular and intermittent. The tongue was nearly natural throughout the disease. Death took place about noon on Tuesday, the 23d of August, eight days from the commencement of the fever.

This patient had been residing, since the first of March, about seven miles from her usual home, in a neighborhood where typhoid fever had been somewhat prevalent during the summer. One of her own grandchildren was sick with the disease from the 8th to the 21st of June, in the house where she lived.

The principal interest of this case is connected with the age of the patient. It is now well settled that typhoid fever is, in a great majority of instances, a disease of early life. Of one hundred and thirty-eight cases, the histories of which are analyzed in Louis's Researches, only ten were over thirty years old, and no one was over forty. Of one hundred and forty-seven cases cited by Chomel, only six were over forty years old, and only one was over fifty. The last-mentioned observer says, in his Clinical Lectures on Typhoid Fever, published in 1834, that, so far as was then known, no case had been seen in which the patient was over fifty-five years of age. The alleged instances, reported by Andral, are none of them authentic cases of the disease. Of two hundred and ninety-one cases analyzed in Dr. Jackson's report, only sixteen were thirty-five years old or upwards. The extreme age is not mentioned. In a memoir by Gendron upon this disease in one of the French provinces, three cases are mentioned in which the patients were between fifty and sixty years old; and four in which they were between sixty and seventy-five years of age. I have ventured to make the suggestion, in a work upon this disease and upon typhus fever, now in the press, that typhoid fever may be found to occur more frequently after the fortieth year of life in the country, than in large towns and cities. This question can be settled only by the careful observations of the future; and be it as it may, I have thought it worth while to place on record the present *authentic and unequivocal example of typhoid fever, or dothinenteritis, occurring in the country, in a patient passed the sixty-third year of life.*

Lowell, August 27th, 1842.

COMPOUND DISLOCATION OF THE FEMUR.

[A NEW edition of a treatise on dislocations and fractures of the joints, by Sir Astley Cooper, under the editorial supervision of Mr. Bransby B. Cooper, Surgeon of Guy's Hospital, has reached this country. We find a complimentary notice of our venerable townsman, Dr. Ingalls, and it is gratifying to present it to our readers. It seems that the following case was communicated by Dr. Walker, of Charlestown, Mass. Till now, we were not aware of the fact that he had been a pupil of Sir

Astley. As successful surgeons, the names of both these gentlemen are familiar to the public. Very many who received their medical education ten or fifteen years ago, in Boston, will remember Dr. Ingalls, who was then in the very meridian of professional activity.]

The following interesting case of compound dislocation of the femur was communicated to me by my former pupil, Dr. Walker, of Charlestown, near Boston, in North America.

The patient, while driving a waggon laden with many tons weight of manure, seated upon the "spine," received a blow which threw him upon the ground, and, as he describes, resting upon his elbows and knees. In this position the waggon passed over the posterior part of his pelvis and right thigh, forcing the head of the femur out of the acetabulum forwards upon the groin, lacerating the soft parts and pressing the head through the integuments. This was, in fact, the state of things when I was called to him. The man was extremely muscular, and having been drinking freely, though not to intoxication, his muscles were greatly agitated. He was restless, and complained of great suffering; the diagnosis was extremely easy, every symptom of dislocation on the pubes being present. By the concurrent advice of my friend Dr. Shurtleff, in whose service the patient had received the injury, I proceeded to make an immediate effort at reduction, in the manner directed in your inestimable treatise, excepting that, having no pulleys, we availed ourselves of manual assistance. The efforts at reduction produced great suffering, but did not succeed in removing the head of the bone from its new situation, notwithstanding the extension was made by several strong men, and in a variety of directions. Foiled in my first attempt, I placed the patient in bed, had him largely bled, and gave him a powerful dose of laudanum. Early the next morning I visited him, and found him calm, free from pain, and evidently under the influence of opium, and in every way well fitted for a further attempt at reduction, which I determined upon attempting with the use of the pulleys. My friend Dr. William Ingalls, who was now present, requested he might be first allowed to make an effort without the pulleys, and, to my astonishment, he succeeded in replacing the head of the bone in the acetabulum in the following manner. By his direction an assistant, taking the ankle of the dislocated limb in his right hand and placing his left in the ham, bent the leg at right angles upon the thigh, and the thigh upon the pelvis, then lifting with a power little more than sufficient to elevate the whole limb, he carried it to its greatest state of abduction, at the same time rotating the femur inwards while Dr. Ingalls passed his thumbs through the wound, and pressing upon the head of the femur directed it towards the acetabulum. At this moment he directed the limb to be forced towards its fellow, by which the reduction was effected with the greatest ease and elegance. Whether the same manner would succeed in other luxations upon the pubes I know not, but here I state facts. I regret to add that extensive suppuration proved fatal to our patient at the end of about three weeks. This and one other luxation of the femur on the dorsum ilii are the only cases which have occurred to me in fifteen years; in that backwards I used the pulleys, as advised in your treatise, and succeeded in the reduction with the greatest ease.

From what I have had an opportunity of observing on the subject of dislocations, I believe that the relative proportion of cases will be in twenty as follows:—*twelve* on the dorsum ilii; *five* in the ischiatic notch; *two* in the foramen ovale; and *one* on the pubes.

The cases I have here detailed, with the dates at which they were presented, manifest the frequent occurrence of this accident to the thigh. How it escaped the observation of surgeons of eminence of former times, is a matter of surprise that can only be accounted for by the difficulties which then existed in the pursuit of anatomy, and more especially of morbid anatomy; and it is a curious circumstance, that Mr. Sharpe, formerly surgeon of Guy's Hospital, author of a treatise on surgery, and in many respects an excellent surgeon, who had a large share of the practice of this metropolis, did not, as I was informed by Mr. Cline, believe that a dislocation of the thigh bone ever occurred.

It is gratifying to observe the advancement of knowledge in the profession at the present period, compared with that of fifty years ago. What should we think of a surgeon of the present day, with all his opportunities of seeing disease in the large hospitals of this city, who doubted the existence of a dislocation of the thigh, when we find that our provincial surgeons immediately detect the nature of these injuries, and generally succeed in their attempts to reduce them? Let it never be forgotten, however, that it is to the knowledge of anatomy, and more especially of morbid anatomy, that we are indebted for this superiority.

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BOSTON, SEPTEMBER 7, 1842.

LETTERS IN VINDICATION OF HOMŒOPATHY.

Mr. Otis Clapp, the publisher of homœopathic books, in School street, Boston, to whom we again make our acknowledgments for many favors, presented us the other day with a neat pamphlet, of fifty-nine pages, bearing the following title, viz.—"Some Remarks on O. W. Holmes's Lectures on Homœopathy and its kindred Delusions; communicated to a friend, by Robert Wesselhœft, Homœopathic Physician, Cambridge. 'Many are called, but few are chosen.'" The last line, a quotation of the words of our Saviour, is out of place, and would, therefore, very much dispose others, as it did ourselves, to distrust the character and design of the publication. If no offence or irreligious expression was intended, then it must pass for an unfortunate blunder, or, plainer still, a glaring error of judgment.

Seventeen letters compose the series, written with a degree of candor that is creditable to the writer. Through these, many *German* opinions are interspersed, which are not very familiar to American readers; and in connection with them, a formidable list of unspeakable names, illustrious, perhaps, in their own country, and which might be in this, if it were possible to pronounce them without breaking off the front teeth. Some of them are as follows, viz.: Von Auteuriett, author of essays on Practical Medicine; Schmidtmann, a writer of Observations on Dropsy; Stapf, Helbig, Bœninghausen; and lastly, Dr. Wesselhœft introduces Mr. Vincent Priessnitz, of Græfenberg, near Freyenwolde, the discoverer of hydropathy—the dreaded rival of homœopathy.

Our author deplores it as an unfortunate thing, that "German literature is so inaccessible to other nations, on account of their ignorance of the German language. I am quite sure that quackery would not have so wide a field to play its part in, but for this ignorance; nor would the French materialism prevail so much, which originates in a want of rational views of physiology, and which leads to a preference of anatomy and surgery, in treating chronic and acute diseases, and to a classification of diseases that is for the benefit of the materia medica, and favors prescriptions of a great many drugs mixed up together."

It may be well to remark, in this place, that the lectures by Dr. Holmes, on Homœopathy and its kindred delusions, have stirred up the whole brotherhood of Hahnemannists, like an electric shock, which explains the cause of their recent activity. They actually needed something to rouse their dormant energies, and bring out the principles of their philosophy, if any they have, that people may be in possession of some tangible mode of estimating the doctrine. For a long while this new school of practitioners have been quietly and almost mysteriously pursuing a profitable practice, here and there, and, in fact, almost everywhere. The charm seems to consist in the patient's knowing nothing about the medicine—and how can he, since he takes nothing much more tangible than condensed moonshine! Strong faith—in other words, an excited imagination, supported by just enough German mysticism to defy all attempts at comprehending the *rationale* of treatment, save now and then the cabalistic exclamation, ***similia similibus curanter***, is about all that homœopathy has presented for the consideration of medical scholars in New England, till this, and some other pamphlets already noticed, made their appearance.

We are disposed to give Dr. Wesselhœft credit for being a well-read German scholar—a bold and watchful soldier, placed by the destinies in the vanguard to protect the North against the wide-spreading influences of allopathic medicine; but it is impossible for him to do it. And we further believe that these letters will very much contribute to raise the author in the estimation of many who have known him but slightly before. He will be appreciated in the character of an industrious scholar, who, considering the embarrassment under which he necessarily labors, in expressing himself in, to him, a foreign language, excites our admiration.

At this particular time, the number of foreign homœopathic physicians in Boston and its vicinity, is thought to be increasing; so, also, are those of native growth; but in regard to the often asked question, do they all meet with encouragement? it is more than we can say. If they can all write as well as Dr. Wesselhœft, without being vindictive, they ought to render him their assistance.

Suspension of the American Medical Library.—A Supplement, making the 13th No. of Vol. I. of the New Series, long known as Dr. Dunglison's *Medical Library and Intelligencer*, brings the unwelcome news of its own death. For five successive years it has had an excellent reputation, but, like some of the poets, whilst delighting and instructing the public, literally died of starvation.

Mr. Haswell, the proprietor, has the following remark—"The great difference in exchanges throughout the country, rendering it next to impossible for remittances tu be made in current funds, together with the existing and long-continued general distress, compelling many subscribers, against their inclinations, to discontinue, are reasons assigned for suspending this periodical. Nothing, indeed, but a desire to relieve the necessities of the late publisher's family, could have induced Dr. D. to continue editing the work, while repeated irregularities existed—the compensation being very inadequate to consumption of time and trouble."

Knowing, from long personal experience, the whole art and mystery of conducting a medical journal, with an irregular and uncertain liquidation of the debts of subscribers, arising from the neglect of some, the inability of others, and the dishonesty, we fear, of not a few, we most heartily sympathize with Mr. Haswell, an enterprising, thrifty medical publisher—at the same time we regret exceedingly to lose a pleasant and agreeable acquaintance with Dr. Dunglison, in his editorial capacity. He is a busy man, and the profession may rest assured that he will never remain an idle spectator in the field of science.

Kane's Chemistry.—Not having seen the work of which a correspondent speaks, we cannot answer his questions. Whether the above is a useful book of reference for a physician to have in the library, and whether students would find it profitable and instructive, is wholly beyond our ken. As all kinds of notices have been given of it in advance, and Dr. Draper's name and fame are associated with its destiny in the United States, there will be strong expressions of disappointment should the work prove unsuccessful. It is a standing rule of this office not to herald forth books which have not been seen. Although frequently enough solicited to become instrumental in catering for those most interested in the sale of books, we are not to be trapped in that way, in regard to any publication. When a copy is placed at our disposal, that is worthy of examination, all the good qualities which we can discover are invariably made known. And it is quite certain that this Journal distributes widely any bibliographical observations that may have an insertion. Editors and publishers, therefore, will understand us, in thus once more defining, as the politicians say, our position.

President of the College of Physicians and Surgeons in the City of New York.—James R. Manly, M.D., late lecturer on Obstetrics in the above school, has sent forth a pamphlet of 48 octavo pages, to show that a deceitful, double-dealing, unprincipled functionary now stands at the head of the institution. We have a faint recollection of some sort of book that emanated from the president, who is also professor of physiology, within the last few years. It was a stillborn production, however, having never manifested the least sign of vitality. Dr. Manly appears to have been ungenerously treated; and it is clearly proved that from some undivulged cause, a malign influence was exerted by the president, to his prejudice. Having no acquaintance with either of them, our sympathies are naturally enlisted on the side of the oppressed. An answer will be coming along, it is presumed, to counteract the effects of this exposition upon the fame, name and official standing of the president; but he cannot successfully, it is apprehended, rebut Dr. Manly's declarations. Why not let Dr. Manly alone? Was not the world large enough for both to breathe in at once? Those active, intelligent, talented gentlemen who compose the present faculty of the College, understand their position—they will define it, too, by-and-by—and then, even that book cannot save the president.

Inspectors of Lunatic Asylums.—In England there is a board of Commissioners, whose duty it is to visit all the establishments open for the reception of lunatics, and report upon their condition. It appears by the statistical returns, that there are thirty-six of these institutions—for looking at which, the lucky inspectors are comfortably paid. During five years, it appears that the expenses of the commissioners were no less than £13,583 17s. 6d. Five physicians received £6498; two barristers pocketed £2920; the secretary got £2000 for his part; and, lastly, chaise hire and other incidental expenses, cost £2165 17s. 10d. more!

Such a picture as this will wholly prevent the organization of a similar committee of examination here. Since each State is sovereign and independent, the general government will never take any interest in the formation of a national bureau for the department of insanity; and no State will ever think it worth while to look after its own concerns in that expensive manner. So the English system cannot be imitated in the United States, especially since the existence of the commission is of doubtful utility, even in the country which is burdened by its operations.

Boston Catalogue of Medical Students.—This is quite a formidable paper. Much labor must have been expended in making up the tabular arrangement with respect to the number of lectures each student attended the last term. That part of the circular which presents the scheme of the next course at the Medical College, will answer all the questions that would naturally arise in the mind of a person who was looking about, yet undecided what school to visit for a medical education.

Extraordinary Abstinence from Fluids.—A paragraph is going the circuit of the papers, that Dr. W. A. Alcott, of Dedham, Mass., extensively known as the author of a series of papers called Health Tracts, and the volumes entitled *The Young Mother*, *Advice to Young Men*, &c. &c. has wholly abstained from any kind of drink since last January. We know Dr. Alcott, and believe him to be a sincerely good man. Some are so ungenerous as to say that he has an eccentric cast of character, otherwise denominated oddity. If it is true that he is subsisting without taking any kind of fluid into the stomach, it is certain that he must be reduced, in time, to the appearance of a lean, unhealthy, uninviting specimen of humanity. It is fair to conclude that the mind will suffer, ultimately, if it has not already, according to the deprivation of the body. Food, such as is ordinarily consumed by adults in civilized life, requires to be diluted in order to be taken into the circulation. Nature will not be wholly deprived of her due; and it is, therefore, pretty evident that in this instance, if there is no fluid taken in any other way, there must be some received from the atmosphere through the skin, by imbibition. All the batrachian family of reptiles, as toads and frogs, are provided with water in this manner. They never swallow fluids by the mouth, and yet they require considerable to facilitate the digestion of the living insects upon which they exclusively feed. This explains why such multitudes of little toads appear in a summer shower: they leave their hiding places to regale themselves with fresh water, which is absorbed by their warty skins. By this cuticular mechanism, they unquestionably live for ages, imprisoned in rocks, whilst holding communication with the air through some minute fissure.

However gratifying it may be to some persons to be the *great talked about*, we are unwilling to admit that Dr. Alcott has any motives of vanity to indulge, or principles to test in physiology, requiring such an anti-common-sense procedure. We are, therefore, inclined to the opinion that the story is merely intended for a joke at the doctor's expense.

To the Editor of the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.

Sir,—In the last No. of your Journal, your correspondent, Dr. C. H. Stedman, has made some statements concerning an abominable prescription, directed for one of his patients by an individual who is imposing on the public under the assumed character of a "homœopathic physician." And Dr. S. closes his remarks with the following brief paragraph.

"The author of this highly poisonous compound, I am told, was about two years ago the driver of a baker's cart; but relinquishing this honest employment, he at length, by the advice of a much-respected dentist in this city, took up the trade of homœopathy."

Now, Sir, my friends show me this, under the impression that I am the dentist to whom allusion is here made, and say the matter will be so received by your readers, because my name has been so much coupled with homœopathy of late. But I am myself unwilling to believe that Dr. S. would intend me this injustice. Yet by publicly making such an allusion, he has designated me as the individual intended, without possessing any facts, which, only, could warrant him, as an honest man, in doing so.

I need not declare to you, Sir, nor to any who *know* me, I hope, that I contemn all quackery and charlatanism as heartily as any man—even your correspondent. I never advised any man to "take up with the trade of homœopathy." I do not view it as a *trade*, nor as "*humbug*," nor "*quackery*," nor "*delusion*," but as an exposition of some of nature's truths; and when conversing on the subject with medical men, whether practitioners or pupils, I have always said to them—"*study* and *test* the doctrines of homœopathy, and be governed by the results of your own experience—take nothing on trust." And this I must conscientiously continue to do, till my views of the power and usefulness of the system are changed, which, however, I see no prospeet of at present.

After what I have stated, I cannot but hope that your correspondent will candidly consider the position in which I am placed by his communication, and treat the matter in plain terms, using no hints or allusions, but in justice to the public, give the name of the man who wrote the abominable prescription, and directed its administration; and in justice to me, either give the name of the dentist alluded to, or such an explanation as may remove all false impressions. J. F. Flagg.

31 *Winter street, Sept. 3d.*

Chronic Rheumatism. By Lucas Marshall Bennett, M.R.C.S.—Having been for several years a sufferer from chronic rheumatism myself, and having by the following means obtained a perfect cure, and for the last four years enjoyed good health, I beg to suggest the same treatment for the benefit of "The Sufferer," Lancet, June 25; viz., a light, nutritious diet, particularly of milk, a total abstinence from all kinds of alcoholic drinks, warm baths, occasional purgatives, and the persevering use of the following medicines:—R. blue pill and rhubarb pill, of each ʒj.; extract of colchicum and conium, of each ʒss.; powdered ipecacuanha, ʒi. Mix. Make forty-eight pills. Take two every night.—R. Hydriodate of potassa, ʒij.; camphor mixture, ℥viij. Make a mixture; take a large tablespoonful three times a day.—R. Tincture of iodine, ʒiij.; tincture of belladonna, ʒiij,; tincture of opium, ʒij.; soap liniment, ℥viij. Make a liniment, to be used three times a day.—*London Lancet.*

Extemporaneous Production of Milk.—M. Dichost, a Russian chemist, proposed the following plan for the preservation and extemporaneous preparation of milk. He evaporates newly-drawn milk, at a very gentle heat, till it is all brought to a state of fine powder. It is then put into small glass bottles, which are completely filled, and hermetically sealed with ground-glass stoppers. A small quantity of the powder thus obtained, dissolved in an appropriate quantity of water, affords on the instant a milk of very good quality. The powder will remain good for a great length of time.—*Gaz. des Hop.*, and *Brit. and For. Med. Review.*

Medical Miscellany.—Nineteen gentlemen received the degree of Doctor in Medicine, at the late commencement of Yale College.—Don Magriel Munoc has petitioned the Mexican government for an exclusive right to manufacture metallic legs, for ten years.—Dr. Palmer is no longer assistant editor of the Boston Transcript.—Mr. L. Smart died on the 7th instant, in Louisiana, of hydrophobia. He had been bitten three years before, and this is supposed to be the only case on record where the poison has remained dormant so long.—Dr. A. Berard has been appointed professor of clinical surgery, by the Faculty of Medicine in Paris, in the place of M. Sanson.—Mr. Zeitz, of this city, manufactures splendid surgical instruments. His place of business is near the head of Water street, facing on Washington street.—Dr. Jeffries operated on Dr. De St. Croix, of Prince Edward Island, last week, for cataract. The patient, a retired surgeon of the British Navy, returned home in the Britannia, with improved vision. It is certainly complimentary to New-England surgery, when a British surgeon comes to Boston for advice.

☞An Advertising Supplement accompanies this No. of the Journal.

Number of deaths in Boston for the week ending Sept. 3d, 40.—Males, 24; Females, 16.

Of consumption, 2—old age, 1—disease of the heart, 1—dropsy on the brain, 2—cramp in the stomach, 1—abscess on the brain, 1—inflammation of the bowels, 1—dysentery, 2—cholera infantum, 4—bowel complaint, 3—mortification, 1—apoplexy, 1—lung fever, 1—infantile, 3—cholera morbus, 3—fits, 2—marasmus, 1—dropsy, 1—teething, 1—typhus fever, 2—inflammation of the lungs, 1—disease of the brain, 1—scarlet fever, 1.

To **Correspondents.**—An interesting and circumstantially-described case of dropsy, post-marked and franked at West Henrietta, N. Y., is without the writer's name. The omission is presumed to have been unintentional, and we shall publish it with the name of the physician in whose hand-writing it seems to be.—A paper on masturbation has been received, and is to be published, by request, without the writer's name, which, however, has been communicated to us.—Dr. Trowbridge's report of surgical cases is also on file for publication

Married,—At Fort Leavenworth, Missouri, Dr. T. G. Madison, U. S. Army, to Miss Laura, daughter of Capt. E. Steen, of the 1st Dragoons.

Died,—In Sharon, Dr. Daniel Stone, 69. Dr. Stone was graduated at Harvard University in 1797; studied his profession under the direction of the late Dr. Samuel Willard, of Uxbridge; was a Fellow of the Massachusetts Medical Society, and for almost forty years sustained the character of an intelligent physician and worthy citizen. His death was very sudden. Owing to some former disease, a small pouch or appendix was attached to the small intestine, in which portions of undigested food were lodged, which occasioned irritation and ulceration of the sac and the discharge of the contents of the bowels into the cavity of the peritoneum. Death took place in less than twenty-four hours, attended with the most extreme agony.—In Heath, very suddenly, of a disease of the heart, Dr. Joseph Emerson, 60.

REGISTER OF THE WEATHER,

Kept at the State Lunatic Hospital, Worcester, Ms. Lat. 42° 15′ 49″. Elevation 483 ft.

1842. Aug.		THERM.			BAROMETER.			Wind, 2, P.M.	Weather, 2, P.M.	Remarks.
		Sun r.	2, P.M.	Sun s.	Sun r.	2, P.M.	Sun s.			
1	Mon.	54	65	66	29.38	29.43	29.48	N W	Fair	Bright clouds extending from N. E. to S.W.
2	Tues.	52	70	66	29.56	29.60	29.63	N W	Fair	
3	Wed.	52	79	72	29.66	29.68	29.70	N	Fair	
4	Thur.	56	69	64	29.69	29.69	29.66	N E	Cloudy	
5	Frid.	55	64	66	29.63	29.63	29.65	N E	Rain	.12 inch rain.
6	Satur.	68	78	74	29.68	29.70	29.67	S W	Cloudy	Showery all day. .71 inch rain.
7	Sun.	69	72	70	29.61	29.60	29.53	S W	Rain	.09 inch rain.
8	Mon.	67	75	72	29.47	29.44	29.44	N E	Fair	.22 do.
9	Tues.	65	74	74	29.52	29.57	29.56	S E	Fair	Showery.
10	Wed.	66	74	70	29.59	29.62	29.60	S E	Cloudy	Do., with thunder and lightning.
11	Thur.	64	80	67	29.61	29.60	29.60	S E	Fair	.65 inch rain. do. do.
12	Frid.	64	72	72	29.60	29.60	29.62	S W	Fair	Showery.
13	Satur.	64	62	64	29.65	29.65	29.63	N E	Rain	Do. .13 inch rain.
14	Sun.	59	72	65	29.56	29.47	29.44	N W	Fair	Do. .08 do.
15	Mon.	66	72	71	29.45	29.46	29.46	N	Cloudy	Do. .04 do.
16	Tues.	64	75	70	29.47	29.44	29.46	N	Fair	Do.
17	Wed.	67	80	71	29.46	29.47	29.46	S W	Fair	
18	Thur.	68	78	78	29.45	29.43	29.43	S	Fair	Do. .15 do.
19	Frid.	70	83	76	29.43	29.40	29.40	S W	Fair	
20	Satur.	64	78	76	29.43	29.49	29.50	S W	Fair	
21	Sun.	62	74	71	29.57	29.65	29.66	N	Fair	
22	Mon.	56	78	78	29.73	29.79	29.79	S	Fair	
23	Tues.	60	79	75	29.80	29.84	29.82	S W	Fair	
24	Wed.	53	78	71	29.81	29.76	29.72	S W	Fair	
25	Thur.	58	69	70	29.61	29.58	29.50	N E	Rain	.43 inch rain.
26	Frid.	68	79	75	29.50	29.48	29.44	N E	Fair	.11 do.
27	Satur.	72	75	73	29.43	29.38	29.35	S E	Rain	.30 do.
28	Sun.	69	70	70	29.29	29.20	29.18	N E	Rain	4.09 do.
29	Mon.	64	78	70	29.18	29.22	29.32	N W	Fair	
30	Tues.	53	72	68	29.48	29.55	29.55	N	Fair	
31	Wed.	56	73	65	29.64	29.67	29.67	S W	Fair	

This month has been wet and warm—a fine season for growth, and a bad one for the ingathering of the crops. Oats and late hay have been damaged. Rain has fallen on 17 days. Range of the thermometer, from 52 to 83; barometer, 29.18 to 29.84. Amount of water, 7.12 inches.

THE BOSTON MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL is published every Wednesday by D. CLAPP, JR., at 18¼ Washington St., corner of Franklin St., to whom all communications must be addressed, post paid. It is also published in Monthly Parts, with a printed cover. There are two volumes each year. J. V. C. SMITH, M.D., Editor. Price $3,00 a year in advance, $3,50 after three months, or $4,00 if not paid within the year. Two copies to the same address, for $5,00 a year, in advance. Orders from a distance must be accompanied by payment in advance or satisfactory reference. Postage the same as for a newspaper.

SUPPLEMENT

TO THE

BOSTON MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL.

NO. 5, VOL. XXVII.........SEPTEMBER 7, 1842.

NOTICE.—LIEBIG'S ANIMAL CHEMISTRY.

THE unfounded assertions and misrepresentations in the "Notice" of Messrs. Wiley & Putnam, of Aug. 16th, have been permitted to go uncontradicted until the reception of full and satisfactory evidence.

It is sufficient here to say, that Professor Liebig was *not* paid for his Report,—that the book reprinted by W. & P. was *not* read before the British Association,—that it does *not* "constitute the sole European authority for Liebig's researches,"—and that the New York re-print is *not* correct.

Those who take further interest in the matter are referred to the Reply, in the Cambridge edition, by THE EDITOR.

Aug. 29th, 1842. Sept. 7—2t

BALTIMORE COLLEGE OF DENTAL SURGERY.

THE annual Course of Lectures in this Institution, will commence the first week in November, and continue to the last of February.

HORACE H. HAYDEN, M.D., Professor Dental Physiology and Pathology.
CHAPIN A. HARRIS, M.D., Professor Practical Dentistry.
THOS. E. BOND, Jr., M.D., Professor of Special Pathology and Therapeutics.
W. R. HANDY, M.D., Professor of Anatomy and Physiology.

Dental Cliniques will be given during the Course

Sept. 7—eptN. W. R. HANDY, *Dean*.

MED. DEPARTMENT OF THE COLUMBIAN COLL., WASHINGTON, D. C.

FACULTY.

THOMAS SEWALL, M. D., Professor of Pathology and the Practice of Medicine.
HARVEY LINDSLY, M.D., Professor of Obstetrics and the Diseases of Women and Children.
THOMAS MILLER, M.D., Professor of Anatomy and Physiology.
JOHN M. THOMAS, M.D., Professor of Materia Medica and Therapeutics.
FREDERICK HALL, M.D., LL.D., Professor of Chemistry and Pharmacy.
WILLIAM P. JOHNSTON, M.D., Professor of Surgery.
SAMUEL C. SMOOT, M.D., Demonstrator of Anatomy.

The Lectures of this institution will commence on the first Monday in November, annually, and continue until the first of March.

The entire expense in a course of lectures by all the Professors, is $70. Dissecting ticket, $10.

Good board can be procured at from $2 50 to $3 per week. Most of the students during the last session paid but $2 50 per week.

Washington, April, 1842. July 27—eoptN1. HARVEY LINDSLY, M.D., *Dean*.

GENEVA MEDICAL COLLEGE.

THE Medical Lectures will commence on the first Tuesday in October, and continue sixteen weeks.

Institutes and Practice of Medicine, by - -	**T. SPENCER, M.D.**, Geneva.
Obstetrics and Medical Jurisprudence, by - -	**C. B. COVENTRY, M.D.**, Utica.
Anatomy and Physiology, by - - -	**JAMES WEBSTER, M.D.**, Rochester.
Chemistry and Pharmacy, by - - -	**JAMES HADLEY, M.D.**, Geneva.
Materia Medica and General Pathology, by -	**JOHN DE LA MATER, M.D.**
Principles and Practice of Surgery, by . -	**FRANK H. HAMILTON, M.D.**, Rochester.
Adjunct Prof. of Mat. Med. and General Pathology,	**THOMAS RUSH SPENCER, M.D.**
Demonstrator of Anatomy, - - - -	**CORYDON LA FORD, M.D.**, Medina.

Aug. 17.—t01 THOMAS SPENCER, Dean.

JAMES HADLEY, Registrar.

MEDICAL INSTITUTION OF YALE COLLEGE.

THE Lecture Term, for 1842-3, will commence on Thursday, September 29th, and continue sixteen weeks.

Chemistry and Pharmacy, by - - - - -	**BENJAMIN SILLIMAN, M.D., LL.D.**
Theory and Practice of Physic, by - - - - -	**ELI IVES, M.D.**
Principles and Practice of Surgery, by - - -	**JONATHAN KNIGHT, M.D.**
Obstetrics, by - - - - - - -	**TIMOTHY P. BEERS, M.D.**
Anatomy and Physiology, by - - - - - -	**CHARLES HOOKER, M.D.**
Materia Medica and Therapeutics, by - - -	**HENRY BRONSON, M.D.**

Lecture fees, $68,50.—Contingent bill, $2,50.—Matriculation fee, $5.—Graduation fee, $15.

New Haven, July 7, 1842. Jy 13—tL CHARLES HOOKER, *Secretary*.

TREMONT-STREET MEDICAL SCHOOL.

THE subscribers, at their rooms in Tremont street, continue to give personal instruction to private pupils as heretofore, in the various branches of medicine, in connection with the practical pursuit of anatomy, and attendance on the Massachusetts General Hospital, the Eye and Ear Infirmary, and the other opportunities belonging to their school.

JACOB BIGELOW,
EDWARD REYNOLDS,
D. HUMPHREYS STORER,
OLIVER W. HOLMES.

Jy 28—eoply

MEDICAL INSTRUCTION.

The subscribers at their room, 5 1-2 Tremont Row, continue to give instruction in all the branches of a thorough medical education, in connection with attendance on the Massachusetts General Hospital and the Infirmary for Diseases of the Lungs, the practical study of anatomy, &c.

H. I. BOWDITCH,
Ap. 6— H. G. WILEY,
G. C. SHATTUCK, JR.
S. PARKMAN.

MEDICAL INSTRUCTION.

The subscriber, Physician and Surgeon to the Marine Hospital, Chelsea, will receive pupils and give personal instruction in the various branches of medical science. He will devote to them such time, and afford them such opportunities and facilities for study and practice, as are essential for a thorough and practical medical education. The medical and surgical practice of the Hospital will be constantly open to his students, and clinical instruction, on the cases as they occur, will be given. Abundant facilities for obtaining a correct knowledge of materia medica and the dispensing of medicines will be afforded.—For terms, and more particular information, application can be made at the Hospital or by letter. GEORGE W. OTIS, JR.

Chelsea, September, 1841. Sep.8—eoptf.

ABDOMINAL SUPPORTERS.

Dr. Haynes's instrument, which is recommended by the profession generally, may now be had at the Medical Journal office. Price, with perineal strap, $4,00—without, $3,50. By addressing the publisher, No. 184 Washington street, physicians may be readily accommodated. A. 19

The Supporters may also be obtained of the following agents:—In New Hampshire, Drs J. A. Dana, N. Hampton; A. Harris, Colebrook; M. Parker, Acworth; J. Crosby, Meredith; E. Bartlett, Haverhill; D. Crosby, Hanover; F. P. Fitch, Amherst; J. Smith, Dover; J. C. Eastman, Hamstead; C. B. Hamilton, Lyme; Stickney & Dexter, Lancaster; J. B. Abbott, Boscawen; N. Kendall & Co., Nashua. In Vermont, Dr. L. Jewett, St. Johnsbury. L. S. Bartlett, Lowell, Mass. J. Balch, Jr., Providence, R. I.

TREATMENT OF HERNIA.—DR. CHASE'S TRUSS.

The undersigned hereby gives notice, that he is furnished with the various instruments invented by Heber Chase, M.D., of Philadelphia, for the radical cure of Hernia; and will continue to attend personally to their application, as he has heretofore done during the absence of the late Dr. E. W. Leach, of this city. HENRY G. CLARK, M.D.,

May 19, 1842. My 25— No. 204 Hanover street, Boston.

INSTRUMENTS.

Theodore Metcalf, Apothecary, No. 33 Tremont Row, offers to surgeons and dentists, the best selected assortment of Instruments to be found in the city: consisting in part of Amputating, Trepanning, Obstetrical, Dissecting, Strabismus, Pocket, Eye and Cooper's Cases; Scarificators, Catheters, Bougies, Stomach Pumps, Injecting do., Spring and Thumb Lancets, Dissecting and Dressing Scissors, Trocars, Needles, Bistouries; Dressing, Dissecting, Polypus and Throat Forceps, Tonsil Instruments, &c. &c. of American and English manufacture.

Extracting Forceps, in sets of 12, or singly, of superior form and finish; Excavators, Burrs, Pluggers, Drills, Files; Cutting, Splitting and Punching Forceps; Gold and Platina Plate and Wire, Solder and Springs, Gold and Tin Foil, **Mineral Teeth**, in great variety (much the largest assortment to be found in N. England), Grindstones, and almost every article used in the surgical or mechanical departments of Dentistry.

All orders from the country carefully and promptly executed. D. 1.—tf

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UTERO-ABDOMINAL SUPPORTER.

The subscriber having moved from No. 16 Howard street to No. 3 Winter street, would inform medical gentlemen that he still continues to manufacture his *improved* "**Chapin's** Abdominal Supporters, and they can be furnished with this instrument (which has been found so useful in cases of prolapsus uteri, abdominal and dorsal weaknesses, as well as in cases of prolapsus ani), from $2,50 to $7,00, according to the finish. Perineum straps (extra) at 75 cts. to $1,00. The measure of the patients to be taken around the pelvis in inches.

Reference may be had to the following physicians in Boston, among others, who recommend this instrument:—Drs. John C. Warren, J. Randall, W. Channing, Geo. Hayward, J. Ware, E. Reynolds, Jr., J. Jeffries, J. V. C. Smith, W. Lewis, Jr., J. Homans, J. Mason Warren, &c.

The supporter, with printed instructions for applying the same, will be furnished and exchanged until suitably fitted, by application personally, or by letter, to A. F. BARTLETT,
No. 3 Winter, corner of Washington st., Boston.

The above may also be obtained of Messrs. James Green & Co., Worcester; G. H. Carleton & Co., Lowell; Joshua Durgin & Co., Portland, Me.

MAYNARD & NOYES,

Importers and wholesale dealers in drugs and medicines, surgical instruments, &c., No. 11 Merchants' Row, Boston. Physicians from the country may be sure of receiving from our establishment none but the best of medicines, on satisfactory terms, for cash or credit, and are invited to forward their orders. Je 15.—lamly

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VACCINE VIRUS.

Physicians in any section of the United States can procure ten quills charged with **Pure Vaccine Virus**, by return mail, on addressing the Editor of the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, enclosing one dollar, ***post paid***, without which no letter will be taken from the post office. June 19

BOYLSTON MEDICAL PRIZE QUESTIONS.

The Boylston Medical Committee, appointed by the President and Fellows of Harvard University consists of the following physicians:

John C. Warren, M.D.	Walter Channing, M.D.	Enoch Hale, M.D.
George C. Shattuck, M.D.	George Hayward, M.D.	John Ware, M.D.
Jacob Bigelow, M.D.	John Randall, M.D.	Edward Reynolds, M.D.

At the annual meeting of the Committee, August 3, 1842, the Boylston Premium of fifty dollars value was awarded to **William A. Davis**, M.D., of Springfield, Massachusetts, for the best dissertation on "The diseases of the kidney; and the changes which occur in the appearance and composition of the urine in health and disease."

The questions for 1843 are—

1st. The best method of warming and ventilating rooms for preventing and curing disease.

2d. The structure and diseases of the Teeth, with a numerical solution of the question, can caries of the teeth be retarded by mechanical processes?

Dissertations on these subjects must be transmitted, post paid, to John C. Warren, M.D., Boston, on or before the first Wednesday of April, 1843.

The following questions are proposed for 1844:

1st. To what extent is the human system protected from smallpox by inoculation with the cowpox? Is the protection increased by re-vaccination, and if so, under what circumstances?

2d. In what cases, and to what extent, is the division of muscles, tendons, or other parts, proper for the relief of deformity or lameness?

Dissertations on these questions must be transmitted as above, on or before the first Wednesday of April, 1844.

The author of the best dissertation on either of the above subjects, will be entitled to a premium of fifty dollars, or a gold medal of that value, at his option.

Each dissertation must be accompanied by a sealed packet, on which shall be written some device or sentence, and within shall be enclosed the author's name and residence. The same device or sentence is to be written on the dissertation to which the packet is attached.

All unsuccessful dissertations are deposited with the Secretary, from whom they may be obtained, if called for within one year after they have been received.

By an order adopted in 1826, the Secretary was directed to publish annually the following votes, viz.:

1st. That the Board do not consider themselves as approving the doctrines contained in any of the dissertations to which the premiums may be adjudged.

2d. That in case of the publication of a successful dissertation, the author be considered as bound to print the above vote in connection therewith.

ENOCH HALE, *Secretary.*

Boston, August 4, 1842. A10—4t

MASSACHUSETTS MEDICAL COLLEGE.

The Medical Lectures of Harvard University begin annually, at the Medical College in Mason street, Boston, on the first Wednesday in November, and continue four months.

The introductory Lecture is given at 12 o'clock of the above day, in the Anatomical Theatre, by the Professors in rotation.

The following are the courses of Lectures delivered in this College, with the fees annexed.

		Fees.
Anatomy and Operative Surgery,	Prof. Warren	$15,00
Midwifery and Medical Jurisprudence,	Prof. Channing	10,00
Materia Medica,	Prof. Bigelow	10,00
Principles of Surgery and Clinical Surgery,	Prof. Hayward	10,00
Chemistry,	Prof. Webster	15,00
Theory and Practice of Physic and Clin. Med.	Profs. Ware and Bigelow	15,00

There is no fee for matriculation. The Hospital and Library are gratuitous. Ticket for Dissecting Room, $5,00. Board is as low as in any of our cities.

The Clinical Lectures in Medicine and Surgery are given on cases in the Massachusetts General Hospital, which are visited by the class three times a week. Surgical operations at the Hospital are frequent. An abundant opportunity is thus furnished to students for practical observation and study.

Jy 20—eptN WALTER CHANNING, Dean.

JEFFERSON MEDICAL COLLEGE OF PHILADELPHIA.

Session of 1842–43.

The regular Lectures will commence on the first Monday of November.

Robley Dunglison, M.D., Professor of Institutes of Medicine and Medical Jurisprudence.
Robert M. Huston, M.D., Professor of Materia Medica and General Therapeutics.
Joseph Pancoast, M.D., Professor of General, Descriptive and Surgical Anatomy.
J. K. Mitchell, M.D., Professor of Practice of Medicine.
Thomas D. Mutter, M.D., Professor of Institutes and Practice of Surgery.
Charles D. Meigs, M.D., Professor of Obstetrics and Diseases of Women and Children.
Franklin Bache, M.D., Professor of Chemistry.

Lectures and practical illustrations will be given at the Philadelphia Hospital regularly through the course, by

Dr. Dunglison on Clinical Medicine.
Dr. Pancoast on Clinical Surgery.

On and after the first of October, the dissecting-room will be open, and the Professor of Anatomy and the Demonstrator, Dr. Jonathan M. Allen, will give their personal attendance thereto. Clinical instruction will likewise be given regularly at the Dispensary of the College. During the course, ample opportunities will be afforded to students of the school for Clinical Instruction; Professors Dunglison, Huston and Pancoast being medical officers of the Philadelphia Hospital; Professor Meigs of the Pennsylvania Hospital; and Professor Mutter, Surgeon of the Philadelphia Dispensary.

ROBERT M. HUSTON, M.D., *Dean of the Faculty.*

⁂ Boarding and other personal expenses of students are at least as cheap in Philadelphia as in any other city of the Union. Ag. 24—tO20

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA.—MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

Session of 1842-43.

The Lectures will commence on Tuesday, the 1st of November, and be continued, under the following arrangement, to the middle of March ensuing.

Practice and Theory of Medicine, by	Nathaniel Chapman, M.D.
Chemistry, by	Robert Hare, M.D.
Surgery, by	William Gibson, M.D.
Anatomy, by	William E. Horner, M.D.
Institutes of Medicine, by	Samuel Jackson, M.D.
Materia Medica and Pharmacy, by	George B. Wood, M.D.
Obstetrics and the Diseases of Women and Children, by	Hugh L. Hodge, M.D.

A course of Clinical Lectures and Demonstrations, in connection with the above, is given at the very extensive and convenient infirmary called the Philadelphia Hospital.

Clinical Medicine, by	W. W. Gerhard, M.D.
Clinical Surgery, by	Drs. Gibson and Horner.

Dr. Horner continues in public attendance at the said Hospital until August 1st; and as the tickets of admission are issued for one year from November 1st, they remain valid for his course, and the other service of the house, until the time expires.

Clinical instruction in medicine is also given from the 1st day of November to the 1st day of March by Dr. Wood, in the Pennsylvania Hospital, an institution which is well known as one of the finest and best conducted infirmaries in the United States.

The rooms for practical anatomy will be opened October 1st, and continued so to the end of March. They are under the charge of Paul Beck Goddard, M.D., Demonstrator, with a supervision on the part of Dr. Horner.

Copious additions to the very extensive cabinets of Anatomy, Materia Medica, Chemistry, Surgery and Obstetrics, have recently been made, and are in progress; the polity of the school being to give to its instructions, both Didactic and Clinical, a character as practical and influential as possible in imparting a sound medical education.

The Professor of Materia Medica, besides his cabinet, has an extensive and well-furnished conservatory, from which are exhibited, in the fresh and growing state, the native and exotic medicinal plants.

263 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, August 1, 1842. W. E. HORNER, M.D.,
Jy. 27—eoptN10 *Dean of the Medical Faculty.*

Note.—A considerable number of the distinguished graduates of the school who are in connection with the Medical Department of the Guardians of the Poor, and with the different Dispensaries and Beneficiary establishments of the city, give clinical and elementary instruction through the year, in private, and in their rounds of practice, to such gentlemen as desire it.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK.

The annual course of Medical Lectures in this Institution will begin on the last Monday of October. There will be two annual sessions, the first of which will terminate on the last day of February, when candidates for the degree of Doctor of Medicine will be examined. The lecture fees for this term, are $105.

The second term of instruction will begin on the third Monday of March, and will be continued until the middle of June, when another examination of candidates will take place. The entire fees for this course are $50.

The spring term offers the following advantages to the student of medicine: 1st. He may annually attend a course of seven instead of four months. 2d. If he graduate at the close of the winter term, he will be allowed to attend the spring term gratuitously. 3d. If the candidate for graduation at the winter Commencement be found unprepared, he will be permitted to attend the spring course gratuitously, and to pass another examination. 4th. An attendance on two spring courses will be received as an equivalent for one winter course.

The surgical clinique is continued every Saturday throughout the year.

Valentine Mott, M.D., Professor of the Principles and Operations of Surgery, and Surgical and Pathological Anatomy.
Granville Sharp Pattison, M.D., Professor of General, Descriptive and Surgical Anatomy.
John Revere, M.D., Professor of the Theory and Practice of Medicine.
Martyn Paine, M.D., Professor of the Institutes of Medicine and Materia Medica.
Gunning S. Bedford, M.D., Professor of Midwifery and the Diseases of Women and Children.
John W. Draper, M.D., Professor of Chemistry.

Appointments by Professors of Surgery and Anatomy.
John Carnochan, M.D., Prosector to the Professor of Surgery.
John H. Whitaker, M.D., Demonstrator to the Professor of Anatomy.

New York, July 14, 1842. Jy. 27—eptN1 JOHN W. DRAPER,
Secretary to the Faculty.

ALBANY MEDICAL COLLEGE.

The annual session of Lectures will commence on the first Tuesday of October, and continue sixteen weeks.

Surgery, by Alden March, M.D.
Theory and Practice of Medicine, by James McNaughton, M.D.
Obstetrics, by Ebenezer Emmons, M.D.
Materia Medica, by T. Romeyn Beck, M.D.
Chemistry, by Lewis C. Beck, M.D.
Anatomy, by James H. Armsby, M.D.
Institutes of Medicine, by Thomas Hun, M.D.
Medical Jurisprudence, by Amos Dean, Esq.

Lecture fees, $70. Matriculation fee, $5. Graduation fee, $20. Boarding, from $2,50 to $3,00 per week. J. H. Armsby, M.D., Registrar.

ALDEN MARCH, M.D., President. Al.27—tO